

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The applicant has filed the instant Preliminary Amendment, in part with a view to respond to the Final Rejection of record.

To facilitate the Examiner's review of the application, please note that claims 2 and 7 have been canceled and other claims have been amended to clarify the claims, as well as to adjust the claim scope, in light of the previous prosecution history.

For example, the term "sol-like solution" has been changed into --a solution of alkoxide, hydrate or carbonate of PZT components, or mixtures thereof--. See, for example, page 3, lines 16-19 of the instant specification. Accordingly, the applicant believes and respectfully submits that all issues concerning formalities, including under 35 U.S.C. §112 have been dealt with and remedied.

Furthermore, the claim language has been refined to more strikingly distinguish over the prior art of record.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, allow the claims as amended and pass this case to issue.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail to Addressee (mail label #EV342530342US) in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 4, 2003

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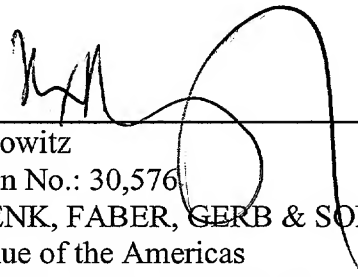
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September 4, 2003

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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